

## **Appleby Archaeology**

Notes of the Committee Meeting of the Appleby Archaeology Group held on Thursday March 16<sup>th</sup> 2016 at the White House, Brampton.

### **Present**

Martin Joyce	Chairman
Heather Edwards	Membership Secretary
Carol Dougherty	
Phyl Rouston	
Trish Shaw	
Martin Railton	Research
Mick Yates	
Richard Stevens	Secretary

### **Apologies**

Mike Godfrey	Treasurer
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### **Notes of the last meeting**

The notes of the previous meeting were agreed to be a correct record.

### **1/3/17 Matters arising.**

2/12/16

The possibility of Paypal as a method of renewal was further discussed, Carol thought that Direct Debit might be simpler. Martin J said that Carol was correct, but that it was not going to be possible for Apparch to use this method since Direct Debit (a mechanism used to directly extract variable amounts of cash from customer accounts) is only available to large Corporate bodies. Nevertheless he felt that, while it would always be necessary to provide support for cash and cheque, payments, members would increasingly expect to be able to pay electronically and that it was very much in the interests of Apparch to go along with this since the ease of operation of electronic payment meant that members would be much more likely to renew their memberships at the end of the year. This is a complex area, however, and he suggested that he and Mike should continue to weigh up the pros and cons of the various mechanisms available - Paypal, bank transfer and standing order.

Regarding renewals this year, only one dissenting member eventually renewed by BACS, the other chose to renew by cheque.

4/12/16 (c.)

Martin J said that the announcement of the successful HAZ application had not yet been made public. He and Martin R attended the recent meeting, which was extremely well-attended. No project manager had yet been appointed and indeed the job had not yet been advertised, however, the 5 year plan was under development. It had become clear that Appleby was one of 10 HAZ schemes nationally. Martin R said that he had found the meeting encouraging and that the involvement of Appleby Archaeology would probably be with building surveys. Training would be given for this activity by English Heritage.

Phyl thought that this might attract more involvement from the membership than eg. previous excavations had done.

8/12/16 There was another discussion on the carrying and storage of the AV equipment for presentations. Chris Wilson was helping by setting up at meetings but it was acknowledged that whoever did it, there was the problem of what would happen if that person could not attend one or

more of the meetings. Martin J suggested that the ultimate solution was to persuade the Town Council to install a projector and screen in the supper room. There might be some sympathy with that in the Council although unlikely in the present financial climate. The best bet might be to try to arrange this as part of the HAZ. The meeting agreed to keep looking for a permanent solution going forward.

9/12/16

All agreed that David Boote was doing an excellent job as Newsletter Editor and that the flow of articles now seemed to be working smoothly.

### **2/3/17 Membership**

Heather reported that the group now had 75 members, the highest ever number. The memberships were made up of 47 individual and 14 joint. Additionally reminders had been sent to 14 members who had not yet renewed. One individual (Mr Wardell) attending the March meeting said that he had paid at an earlier meeting but had subsequently received no mailings. His details are not on the membership system. Heather is investigating. A few of the new members had come via Dig Appleby and Martin said that there was a possibility that the owners of Espland, where the Druidical Judgement Seat was located, might be interested in joining.

### **3/3/17 Treasurer's Report**

Martin J presented Mike's accounts to 9 March which showed a positive balance of £644 once the remaining HLF grant had been deducted.

### **4/3/17 Research**

- a) Dig Appleby Project: See minutes of Project Meeting No. 5 dated Thursday March 16<sup>th</sup> 2017.
- b) Martin R said that he had sent the completed Brackenber report to CWAAS, as required by the terms of the grant. However, it would not appear in this year's Transactions as there was no room for it. 2018 would be the likely publishing date.

### **5/3/17 Correspondence**

- a) Phyl had received and circulated the A in W newsletter.
- b) Richard said he had received various types of correspondence by email, all of which he had deleted as they were of no interest to the group. They consisted mostly of advertisements for archaeological/historical tours.
- c) Martin J had written to and received a reply from Caroline Dudgeon (Town Clerk) regarding the failure of the lift at a recent meeting. As a result, one free evening had been granted in compensation and we had been promised an emergency contact telephone number in the event of future problems.

### **6/3/17 Programme**

The programme for 2017/18 was discussed. Two talks had been arranged and were in the admin database, although not yet published on the website.

Harry Hawkins had again been active and had suggested, then arranged for Professor Colin Haselgrove from Leicester University to talk about Stanwick Fort, subject to receipt of fuel expenses from Leicester. The date confirmed as April 2018. Martin J had confirmation from Jamie Quartermaine (OAN) that he would be available in December 2017 to talk on the subject of the application of digital technology to archaeology. Carol suggested that Fiona Edmunds, who was now at Lancaster University, might like to come again – she had suggested as much on her

last visit. Martin R agreed to investigate the Morecambe Bay Project to see if there were any involved who could speak to the group. Finally, Trish suggested Peter Messenger who is currently working on a PhD at Lancaster and is well known for his interest in historic rural buildings in Cumbria. All three agreed to follow up their suggestions. **(Carol, Trish, Martin R)**

There was a discussion on the summer events – the last part of the Dig Appleby project would negate the need for an event in the early summer, although a possible day out and an evening walk would be required in the later part. No conclusion but all agreed to keep thinking. Dacre and Morland Church were suggested.

### **7/3/17 AOB**

Martin J wanted to discuss the storage and archiving of all the reports, articles etc. generated by the Group. Martin R suggested that everything ever generated or saved could be separated into two parts – research/conference reports etc. could go to the library, currently held by himself. Ultimately, this would be placed with either the Cumbria archive or the Penrith Museum, although many of the research reports are already with the HER. Everything else could be kept, possibly scanned if thought interesting enough and kept on an account in the cloud. Martin J agreed to take responsibility for this part of the archive. **(Martin J)**

Regarding Phyl's name and address being on many of the reports etc. going back many years, now available on the website, Martin J said he would try to eradicate these as an ongoing process. **(Martin J)**

Martin J asked Trish and Mick if they would be available to help with door duties and coffee and they agreed on the basis that they would inform the committee if they would be absent on any of the meetings. **(Trish and Mick)**

Richard agreed to update the committee contacts list and redistribute. **(Richard)**

Newsletter distribution – Phyl and Martin J agreed to liaise. **(Phyl and Martin)**

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00pm

**Time and date of next meeting: 7.30pm Thursday 29 June at North Stainmore.**